

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1 - 4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) A sample injection method used in a sample injection apparatus ~~including~~ included in a liquid chromatography apparatus, which comprises:

- a step of aspirating a sample into a sampling needle,
- a step of holding the sample in the sampling needle and dipping the sampling needle in cleaning liquid,
- a step of generating an ultrasonic wave in the cleaning liquid so as to clean the sampling needle dipped in the cleaning liquid, and
- a step of ejecting the sample from the sampling needle so as to inject the sample into a moving liquid.

6. (previously presented) A sample injection method as claimed in claim 5, wherein a vibration frequency of the ultrasonic vibrator is 20 kHz or more and 80 kHz or less.

7. (previously presented) A sample injection method as claimed in claim 6, wherein an inner diameter of the sampling needle is

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0.1 mm or more and 0.8 mm or less.

8 - 11. (canceled)